

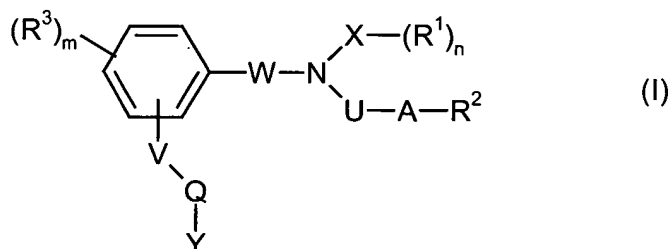
Remarks/Arguments begin on page 45 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A compound of the general formula (I)



in which

V is absent, O,  $NR^4$ ,  $NR^4CONR^4$ ,  $NR^4CO$ ,  $NR^4SO_2$ ,  $COO$ ,  $CONR^4$  or  $S(O)_o$ ,

in which

$R^4$ , independently of any other radical  $R^4$  which may be present, is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms or arylalkyl

having 7 to 18 carbon atoms, where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, alkyl, or alkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

o is 0, 1 or 2,

Q is absent, straight-chain or branched alkylene, straight-chain or branched alkenediyl or straight-chain or branched alkynediyl, having in each case up to 12 carbon atoms, which may in each case contain one or more groups selected from the group consisting of O, S(O)<sub>p</sub>, NR<sup>5</sup>, CO, NR<sup>5</sup>SO<sub>2</sub> and CONR<sup>5</sup> and which may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, hydroxyl or alkoxy having up to 4 carbon atoms, where optionally any two atoms of the abovementioned chain may be attached to one another forming a three- to eight-membered ring,

in which

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, which may be substituted by halogen or alkoxy having up to 4 carbon atoms, and

p is 0, 1 or 2,

Y is hydrogen, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~ or straight-chain or branched cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, ~~which may also be attached via N,~~  
wherein the cyclic radicals may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl, straight-chain

or branched alkynyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkoxy having in each case up to 8 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, halogen, hydroxyl, CN,  $\text{SR}^6$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{NR}^8\text{R}^9$ ,  $\text{NR}^7\text{COR}^{10}$ ,  $\text{NR}^7\text{CONR}^7\text{R}^{10}$  or  $\text{CONR}^{11}\text{R}^{12}$ ,

in which

$\text{R}^6$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

$\text{R}^7$  independently of any other radical  $\text{R}^7$  which may be present is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

$\text{R}^8$ ,  $\text{R}^9$ ,  $\text{R}^{11}$  and  $\text{R}^{12}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~ arylalkyl having 8 to 18 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms or a radical of the formula  $\text{SO}_2\text{R}^{13}$ , wherein the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, hydroxyl, CN,  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{NH}_2$ ,  $\text{NHCOR}^7$ , alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms, ~~or two substituents  $\text{R}^8$  and  $\text{R}^9$  or  $\text{R}^{11}$  and  $\text{R}^{12}$  may be attached to one another forming a five or six membered ring which may contain O or N,~~

and wherein

$R^{13}$  is straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms,  
where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

$R^{10}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~ or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, which may furthermore optionally be substituted by halogen, hydroxyl, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>, NHCOR<sup>7</sup>, alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~or by an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O, which may also be attached via N,~~ which may be attached directly or via a group O, S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>7</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>, CONR<sup>7</sup>, straight-chain or branched alkylene, straight-chain or branched alkenediyl, straight-chain or branched alkyloxy, straight-chain or branched oxyalkyloxy, straight-chain or branched sulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched thioalkyl having in each case up to 8 carbon atoms and which may be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or

branched halogenoalkoxy, carbonylalkyl or straight-chain or branched alkenyl having in each case up to 6 carbon atoms, halogen,  $SR^6$ , CN,  $NO_2$ ,  $NR^8R^9$ ,  $CONR^{15}R^{16}$  or  $NR^{14}COR^{17}$ ,

in which

$R^{14}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

$R^{15}, R^{16}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms or a radical of the formula  $SO_2R^{18}$ , where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, hydroxyl, CN,  $NO_2$ ,  $NH_2$ ,  $NHCOR^7$ , alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms, in which

$R^{18}$  is straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, hydroxyl, CN,  $NO_2$ ,  $NH_2$ ,  $NHCOR^7$ , alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

and

$R^{17}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to~~

~~9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O, or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, which may furthermore optionally be substituted by halogen, hydroxyl, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>, NHCOR<sup>7</sup>, alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms;~~

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may be fused with an aromatic or saturated carbocycle having 1 to 10 carbon atoms ~~or an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, or alkoxycarbonyl having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms, or CN, NO<sub>2</sub> or NR<sup>19</sup>R<sup>20</sup>,

in which

R<sup>19</sup> and R<sup>20</sup> independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

m is an integer from 1 to 4,

W is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 6 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, which may in each case contain a group selected from the group consisting of O, S(O)<sub>q</sub>, NR<sup>21</sup>, CO and CONR<sup>21</sup>, or is CO, NHCO or OCO,

in which

q is 0, 1 or 2,

$R^{21}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

U is straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

A is aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms ~~or an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~

which may optionally be mono- to trisubstituted by halogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, halogenoalkoxy or alkoxy carbonyl having up to 4 carbon atoms, CN, NO<sub>2</sub> or NR<sup>22</sup>R<sup>23</sup>,

in which

$R^{22}$  and  $R^{23}$  independently of one another are each hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, carbonylalkyl or sulphonylalkyl,

$R^2$  is ~~tetrazolyl~~, COOR<sup>24</sup> or CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>,

in which

$R^{24}$  is hydrogen, alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

$R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  independently of one another are each hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms or a radical of the formula  $SO_2R^{27}$ ,  
~~or  $R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  together form a five- or six-membered ring which may contain N or O,~~

in which

$R^{27}$  is straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms,  
where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, CN,  $NO_2$ , alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

X is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 12 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl having up to 12 carbon atoms which may in each case contain one to three groups selected from the group consisting of O,  $S(O)_r$ ,  $NR^{28}$ , CO and  $CONR^{29}$ , or is aryl or aryloxy having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, CN,  $NO_2$ , alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms, where optionally any two atoms of the abovementioned chains are attached to one another via an alkyl chain, forming a three- to eight-membered ring,

in which



r is 0, 1 or 2,

R<sup>28</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

R<sup>29</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

n is 1 or 2; and

R<sup>1</sup> is ~~tetrazolyl~~, COOR<sup>30</sup> or CONR<sup>31</sup>R<sup>32</sup>,

in which

R<sup>30</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

R<sup>31</sup> and R<sup>32</sup> independently of one another are each hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms or a radical of the formula SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>33</sup>,

in which

R<sup>33</sup> is straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms,  
where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

~~and its stereoisomers and salts~~ or a stereoisomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 3,

in which

V is absent, O, NR<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>4</sup>CONR<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>4</sup>CO, NR<sup>4</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>, COO, CONR<sup>4</sup> or S(O)<sub>o</sub>,

in which

R<sup>4</sup> independently of any other radical R<sup>4</sup> which may be present, is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms or arylalkyl having 7 to 18 carbon atoms, where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, alkyl, alkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

o is 0, 1 or 2,

Q is absent, straight-chain or branched alkylene, straight-chain or branched alkenediyl or straight-chain or branched alkynediyl having in each case up to 12 carbon atoms, which may in each case contain one or more groups selected from the group consisting of O, S(O)<sub>p</sub>, NR<sup>5</sup>, CO, NR<sup>5</sup>SO<sub>2</sub> and CONR<sup>5</sup> and which may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, hydroxyl or alkoxy having up to 4 carbon atoms, where optionally any two atoms of the abovementioned chain may be attached to one another forming a three- to eight-membered ring,

in which

$R^5$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, which may be substituted by halogen or alkoxy having up to 4 carbon atoms, and

$p$  is 0, 1 or 2,

$Y$  is hydrogen,  $NR^8R^9$ , aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~ or straight-chain or branched cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, ~~which may also be attached via N,~~ wherein the cyclic radicals may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl, straight-chain or branched alkynyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkoxy having in each case up to 8 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, halogen, hydroxyl, CN,  $SR^6$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $NR^8R^9$ ,  $NR^7COR^{10}$ ,  $NR^7CONR^7R^{10}$  or  $CONR^{11}R^{12}$ ,

in which

$R^6$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

$R^7$  independently of any other radical  $R^7$  which may be present is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

$R^8$ ,  $R^9$ ,  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O~~, arylalkyl having 8 to 18 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms or a radical of the formula  $SO_2R^{13}$ , wherein the alkyl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, hydroxyl, CN,  $NO_2$ ,  $NH_2$ ,  $NHCOR^7$ , alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms, ~~or two substituents  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  or  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  may be attached to one another forming a five or six membered ring which may contain O or N,~~

and wherein

$R^{13}$  is straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, CN,  $NO_2$ , alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

$R^{10}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting~~

of ~~S, N and O~~, or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, which may furthermore optionally be substituted by halogen, hydroxyl, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>, NHCOR<sup>7</sup>, alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~or by an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O, which may also be attached via N,~~ which may be attached directly or via a group O, S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>7</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>, CONR<sup>7</sup>, straight-chain or branched alkylene, straight-chain or branched alkenediyl, straight-chain or branched alkyloxy, straight-chain or branched oxyalkyloxy, straight-chain or branched sulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched thioalkyl having in each case up to 8 carbon atoms and which may be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkoxy, carbonylalkyl or straight-chain or branched alkenyl having in each case up to 6 carbon atoms, halogen, SR<sup>6</sup>, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, CONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup> or NR<sup>14</sup>COR<sup>17</sup>,

in which

R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup> independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms or a radical of the formula SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>18</sup>,

in which

$R^{18}$  is straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms,  
where the aryl radical for its part may be mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

and

$R^{17}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O;~~ or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, which may furthermore optionally be substituted by halogen, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, alkyl, alkoxy, halogenoalkyl or halogenoalkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may be fused with an aromatic or saturated carbocycle having 1 to 10 carbon atoms ~~or an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O;~~

$R^3$  is hydrogen, halogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl or straight-chain or branched alkoxy having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms,

m is an integer from 1 to 4,

W is straight-chain or branched alkylene or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms,

U is -CH<sub>2</sub>-,

A is phenyl ~~or an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~  
which may optionally be mono- to trisubstituted by halogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl or straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 4 carbon atoms,

R<sup>2</sup> is COOR<sup>24</sup>,

in which

R<sup>24</sup> is hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms,

X is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 8 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl having up to 8 carbon atoms which may in each case contain one to three groups selected from the group consisting of phenyl, phenyloxy, O, CO and CONR<sup>29</sup>,

in which

$R^{29}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms,

$n$  is 1 or 2, and

$R^1$  is  $COOR^{30}$ ,

in which

$R^{30}$  is hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 3,

in which

$V$  is absent, O, S or  $NR^4$ ,

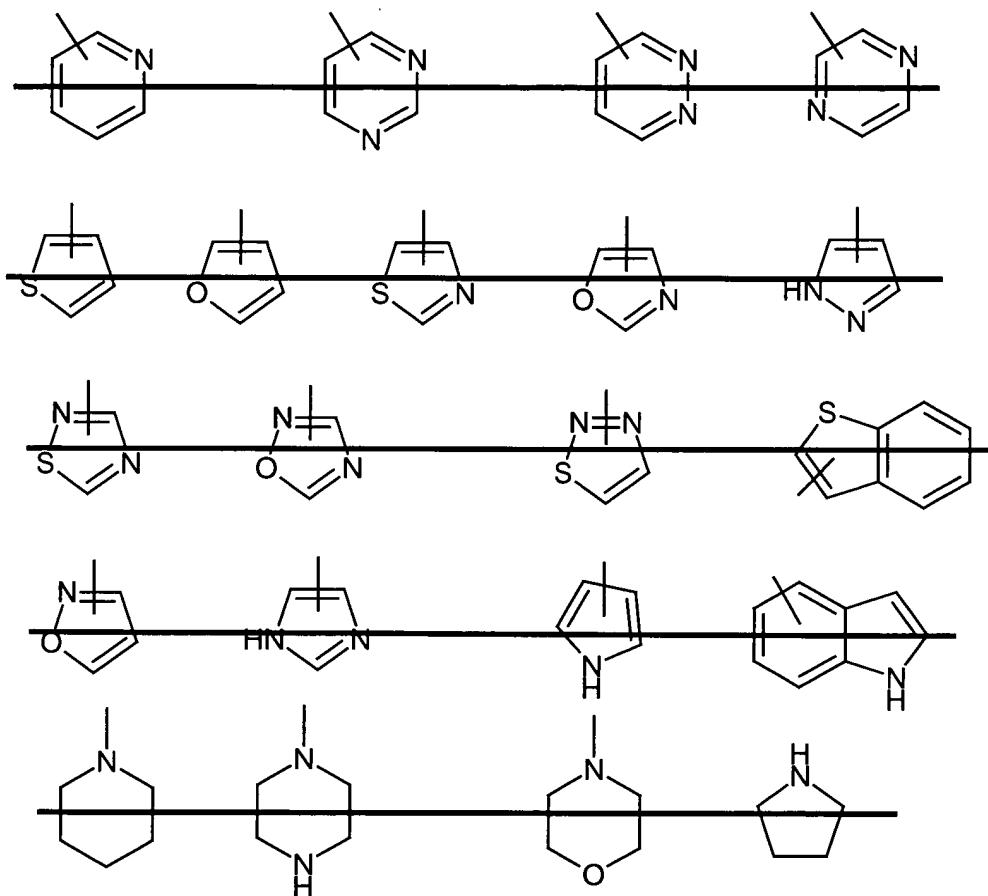
in which

$R^4$  is hydrogen or methyl,

$Q$  is absent, straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 9 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl or straight-chain or branched alkynediyl having up to 4 carbon atoms which may be monosubstituted by halogen,

$Y$  is H,  $NR^8R^9$ , cyclohexyl, phenyl, or naphthyl ~~or a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of~~





which may also be attached via N,

wherein the cyclic radicals may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl, straight-chain or branched alkynyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkoxy having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, F, Cl, Br, I, NO<sub>2</sub>, SR<sup>6</sup>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, NR<sup>7</sup>COR<sup>10</sup> or CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>,  
in which

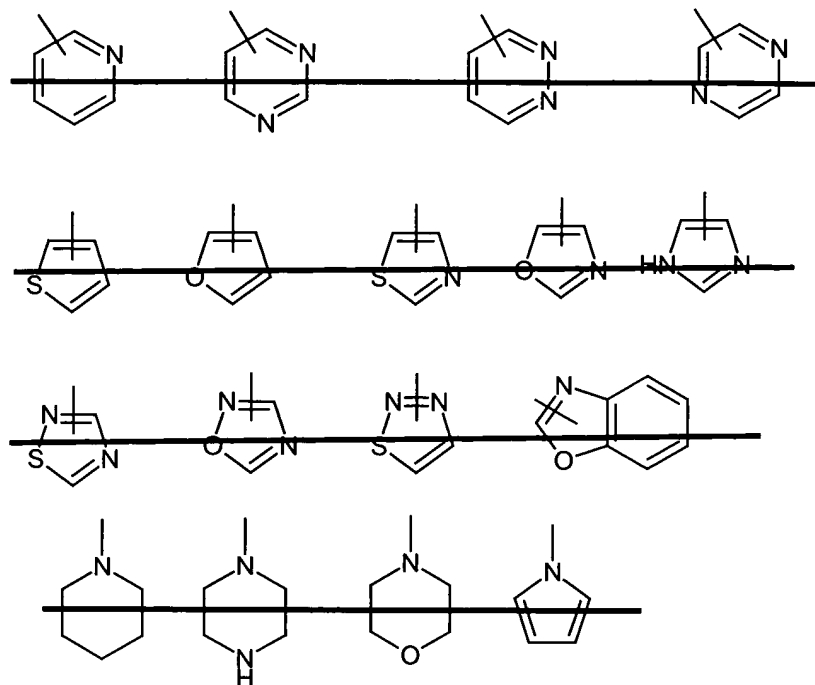
$R^6$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, or straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

$R^7$  is hydrogen, or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

$R^8, R^9, R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or phenyl, wherein the phenyl radical may be mono- to trisubstituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino,  $NO_2$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$  or CN, ~~or two substituents  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  or  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  may be attached to one another forming a five or six membered ring which may be interrupted by O or N,~~

$R^{10}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or phenyl, where the phenyl radical may be mono- to trisubstituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino,  $NO_2$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$  or CN;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by phenyl ~~or a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of~~



which may be attached directly or via a group O, S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>4</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>, CONR<sup>7</sup>, straight-chain or branched alkylene, straight-chain or branched alkenediyl, straight-chain or branched alkyloxy, straight-chain or branched oxyalkyloxy, straight-chain or branched sulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched thioalkyl having in each case 4 carbon atoms and which may be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl or straight-chain or branched alkenyl having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms, F, Cl, Br, I, CN, SCH<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup> or NR<sup>14</sup>COR<sup>17</sup>,

in which

R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms,

and

R<sup>17</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~ or cycloalkyl having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, which may furthermore optionally be substituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub> or CN;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may be fused with an aromatic or saturated carbocycle having 1 to 10 carbon atoms ~~or an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen or fluorine,

m is an integer from 1 to 2,

W is CH<sub>2</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>, or CH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>,

U is -CH<sub>2</sub>-,

A is phenyl, ~~pyridyl, thienyl or thiazolyl~~ which may optionally be mono- to trisubstituted by methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl, s-butyl, t-butyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, methoxy, ethoxy, F, Cl, Br,

$R^2$  is  $\text{COOR}^{24}$ ,

in which

$R^{24}$  is hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

X is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 8 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl having up to 8 carbon atoms which may in each case contain one to three groups selected from the group consisting of phenyl, phenyloxy, O, CO and  $\text{CONR}^{29}$

in which

$R^{29}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms,

n is 1 or 2, and

$R^1$  is  $\text{COOR}^{35}$ ,

in which

$R^{35}$  is hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms.

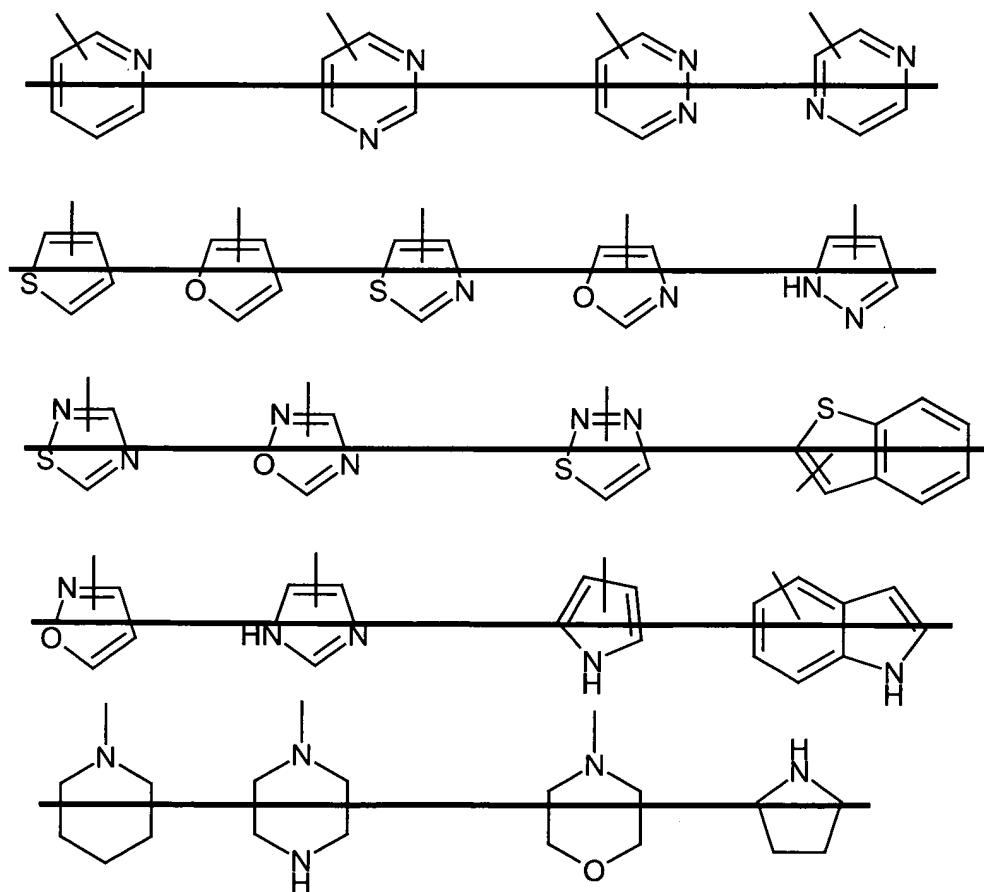
6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 3,

in which

V is O,

Q is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 9 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl or straight-chain or branched alkynediyl having up to 4 carbon atoms which may be monosubstituted by halogen,

Y is H, cyclohexyl, or phenyl or a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of



wherein the cyclic radicals may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl, straight-chain or branched alkynyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkoxy having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, F, Cl, Br, I, NO<sub>2</sub>, SR<sup>6</sup>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, NR<sup>7</sup>COR<sup>10</sup> or CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>,

in which

R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

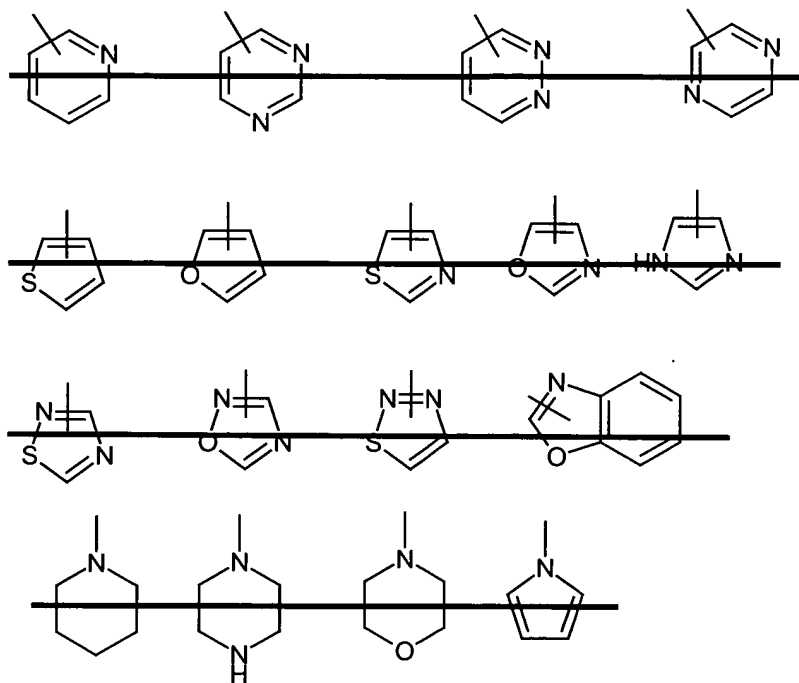
R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or phenyl, wherein the phenyl radical may be mono- to trisubstituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub> or CN, ~~or two substituents R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> or R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> may be attached to one another forming a five or six membered ring which may be interrupted by O or N,~~

R<sup>10</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or phenyl,

where the phenyl radical may be mono- to trisubstituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub> or CN;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by phenyl or a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of



which may be attached directly or via a group O, S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, straight-chain or branched alkylene, straight-chain or branched alkenediyl, straight-chain or branched alkyloxy, straight-chain or branched oxyalkyloxy, straight-chain or branched sulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched thioalkyl having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms and which may be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl or straight-chain or



branched alkenyl having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms, F, Cl, Br, I, CN, SCH<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup> or NR<sup>14</sup>COR<sup>17</sup>,

in which

R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms,

and

R<sup>17</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~ or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, which may furthermore optionally be substituted by F, Cl, Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub> or CN;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may be fused with an aromatic or saturated carbocycle having 1 to 10 carbon atoms ~~or an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen or fluorine,

m is an integer from 1 to 2,

W is -CH<sub>2</sub>- or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-,

U is -CH<sub>2</sub>-,

A is phenyl which may optionally be mono- to trisubstituted by methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl, s-butyl, t-butyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, methoxy, ethoxy, F, Cl, Br,

R<sup>2</sup> is COOR<sup>24</sup>,

in which

R<sup>24</sup> is hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

X is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 6 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, which may each contain one to three groups selected from the group consisting of phenyloxy, O, CO and CONR<sup>29</sup>,

in which

R<sup>29</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms,

n is 1 or 2, and

R<sup>1</sup> is COOR<sup>35</sup>,

in which

R<sup>35</sup> is hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms.

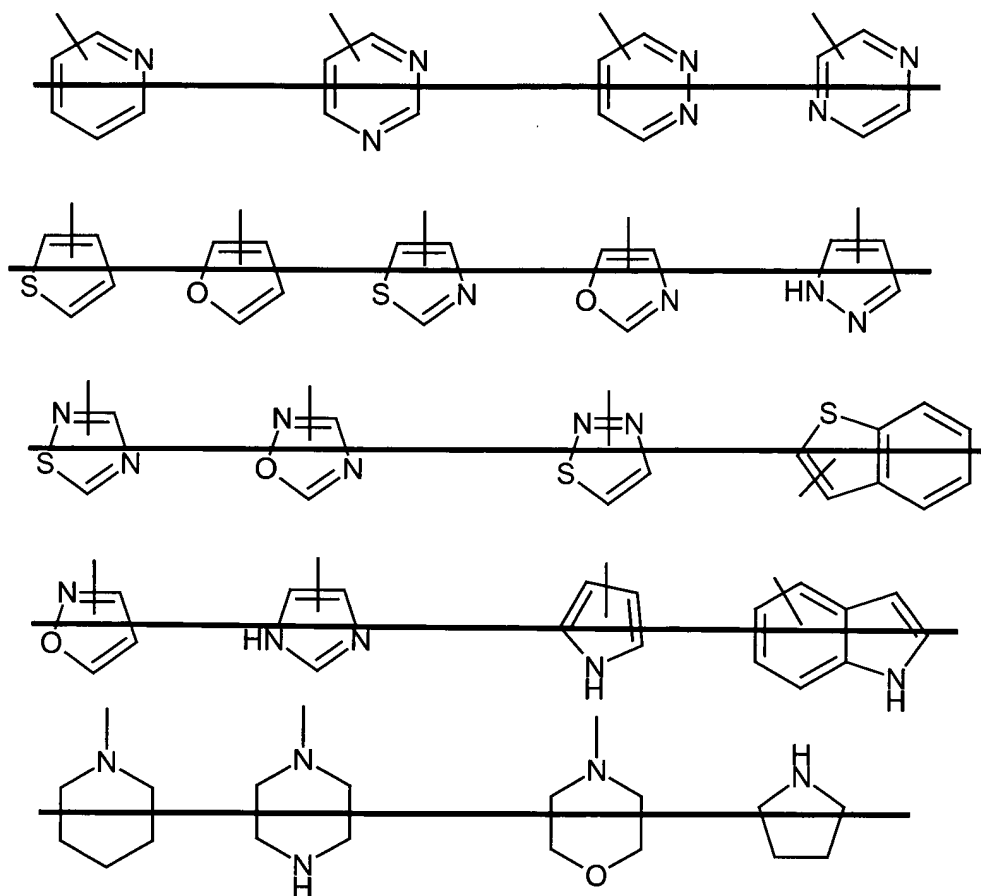
7. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 3,

in which

V is O,

Q is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 9 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl or straight-chain or branched alkynediyl having up to 4 carbon atoms which may be monosubstituted by halogen,

Y is H, cyclohexyl, or phenyl ~~or a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of~~



wherein the cyclic radicals may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl, straight-chain or branched alkynyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkoxy, having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, F, Cl, Br, I, NO<sub>2</sub>, SR<sup>6</sup>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, NR<sup>7</sup>COR<sup>10</sup> or CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>,

in which

$R^6$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

$R^7$  is hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

$R^8, R^9, R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or phenyl,

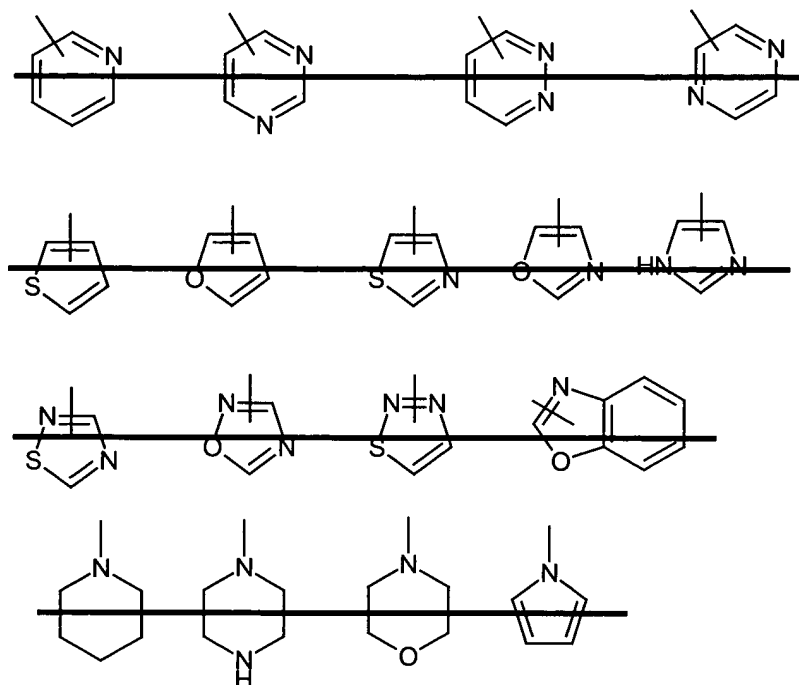
where the phenyl radical may be mono- to trisubstituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino,  $NO_2$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$  or CN,

~~or two substituents  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  or  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  may be attached to one another forming a five or six membered ring which may be interrupted by O or N,~~

$R^{10}$  is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or phenyl,

where the phenyl radical may be mono- to trisubstituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino,  $NO_2$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$  or CN;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may in each case be mono- to trisubstituted by phenyl ~~or a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of~~



which may be attached directly or via a group O, S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, straight-chain or branched alkylene, straight-chain or branched alkenediyl, straight-chain or branched alkyloxy, straight-chain or branched oxyalkyloxy, straight-chain or branched sulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched thioalkyl having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms and which may be mono- to trisubstituted by straight-chain or branched alkyl, straight-chain or branched alkoxy, straight-chain or branched alkoxyalkoxy, straight-chain or branched halogenoalkyl or straight-chain or branched alkenyl having in each case up to 4 carbon atoms, F, Cl, Br, I, CN, SCH<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup> or NR<sup>14</sup>COR<sup>17</sup>,

in which

R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms,

and

R<sup>17</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, aryl having 6 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~an aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~ or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, which may furthermore optionally be substituted by F, Cl Br, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, s-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, acetylamino, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub> or CN;

and/or the cyclic radicals in Y may be fused with an aromatic or saturated carbocycle having 1 to 10 carbon atoms ~~or an aromatic or saturated heterocycle having 1 to 9 carbon atoms and up to 3 heteroatoms from the group consisting of S, N and O,~~

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen or fluorine,

m is an integer from 1 to 2,

W is -CH<sub>2</sub>- or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-,

U is -CH<sub>2</sub>-,

A is phenyl which may optionally be mono- to trisubstituted by methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl, s-butyl, t-butyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, methoxy, ethoxy, F, Cl, or Br,

R<sup>2</sup> is COOH,

X is straight-chain or branched alkylene having up to 6 carbon atoms or straight-chain or branched alkenediyl having up to 6 carbon atoms which may in each case contain one to three groups selected from the group consisting of phenyloxy, O, CO and CONR<sup>29</sup>  
in which

R<sup>29</sup> is hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms,

n is 1 or 2, and

R<sup>1</sup> is COOH.

8. (Previously presented) A compound according to Claim 3,

in which

V is O,

Q is CH<sub>2</sub>,

Y is phenyl which is substituted by a radical selected from the group consisting of 2-phenylethyl, cyclohexyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-chlorophenoxy, 4-methoxyphenoxy, 4-trifluoromethylphenoxy, 4-cyanophenoxy, and 4-methylphenyl,



$R^3$  is hydrogen or fluorine,

$m$  is an integer from 1 to 2,

$W$  is  $CH_2CH_2$ -,

$U$  is  $-CH_2-$ ,

$A$  is phenyl,

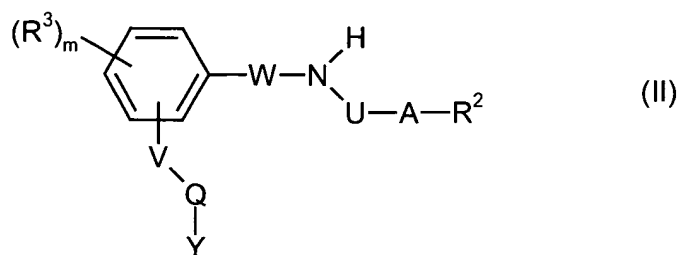
$R^2$  is  $COOH$ , where  $R_2$  is located in the 4-position relative to the radical  $U$ ,

$X$  is  $(CH_2)_4$ , and

$R^1$  is  $COOH$ .

9. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing compounds of the general formula (I), comprising:

- (a) reacting compounds a compound of the formula (II)



with ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (III)



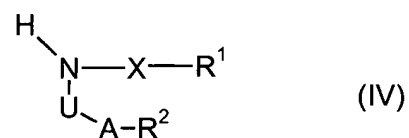
in which

$\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ , V, Q, Y, W, X, U, A and m are as defined in Claim 3, and

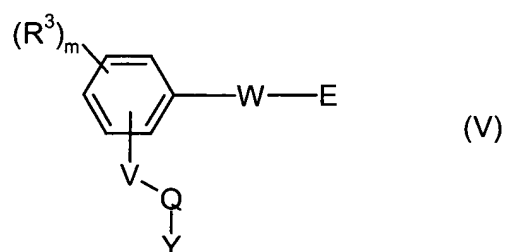
E is either a leaving group which is substituted in the presence of a base or is an optionally activated hydroxyl function;

or

(b) reacting ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (IV)



with ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (V)



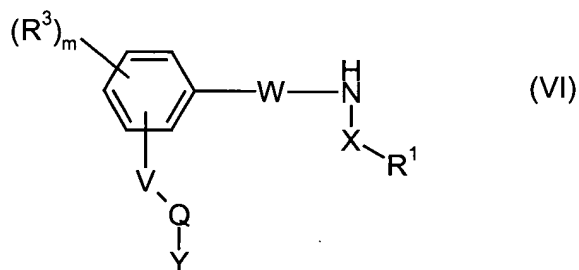
in which

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , V, Q, Y, W, X, U, A and m are as defined in Claim 3, and

E is either a leaving group which is substituted in the presence of a base or is an optionally activated hydroxyl function;

or

(c) reacting ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (VI)



with ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (VII)



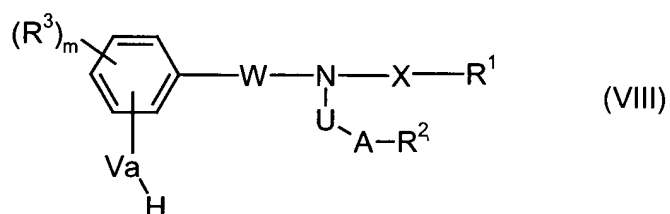
in which

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , V, Q, Y, W, X, U, A and m are as defined in Claim 3, and

E is either a leaving group which is substituted in the presence of a base or is an optionally activated hydroxyl function;

or

(d) reacting ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (VIII),

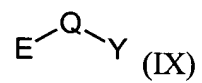


in which

Va is O or S and

W, A, X, U, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and m are as defined in Claim 3,

with ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (IX)



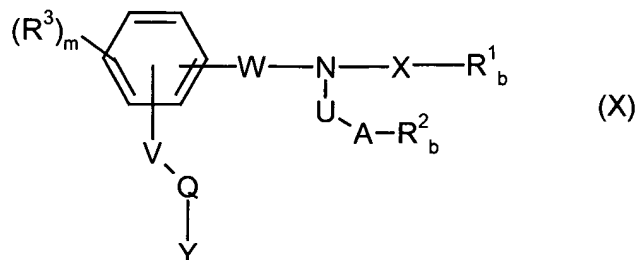
in which

Q, Y are as defined in Claim 3, and

E is either a leaving group which is substituted in the presence of a base or is an optionally activated hydroxyl function;

or

(e) reacting ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (X)



in which

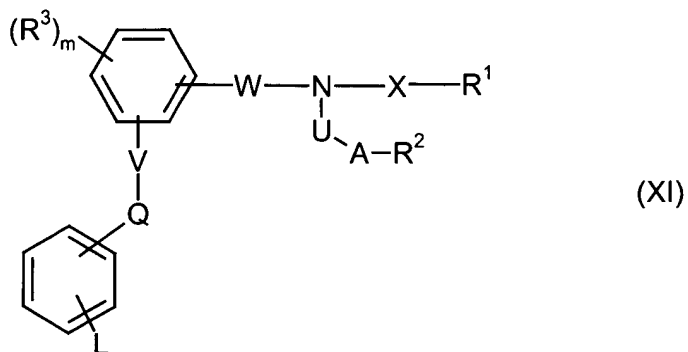
$R^3$ , V, Q, Y, W, X, U, A and m are as defined in Claim 3,

$R^1_b$  and  $R^2_b$  independently each represent CN or COOAlk, where Alk represents a straight-chain or branched alkyl radical having up to 6 carbon atoms,

With an aqueous solutions solution of strong acids acid or strong bases base to convert ~~them~~ it into the corresponding free carboxylic acids acid;

or

(f) reacting ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (XI)



in which

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , V, Q, Y, W, X, U, A and m are as defined in Claim 3,

L represents Br, I or the group  $CF_3SO_2-O$ ,

with ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (XII)

M-Z (XII)

in which

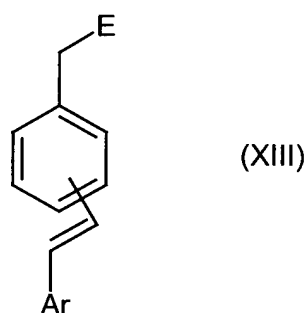
M represents an aryl or heteroaryl radical, a straight-chain or branched alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl radical or cycloalkyl radical or represents an arylalkyl, an arylalkenyl or an arylalkynyl radical, and

Z represents the ~~groupings~~ group  $-B(OH)_2$ ,  $-CH\equiv CH$ ,  $-CH=CH_2$  or  $-Sn(nBu)_3$ ,

in the presence of a palladium compound, ~~if appropriate~~ optionally additionally in the presence of a reducing agent and further additives and in the presence of a base;

or

(g) reacting ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (XIII)

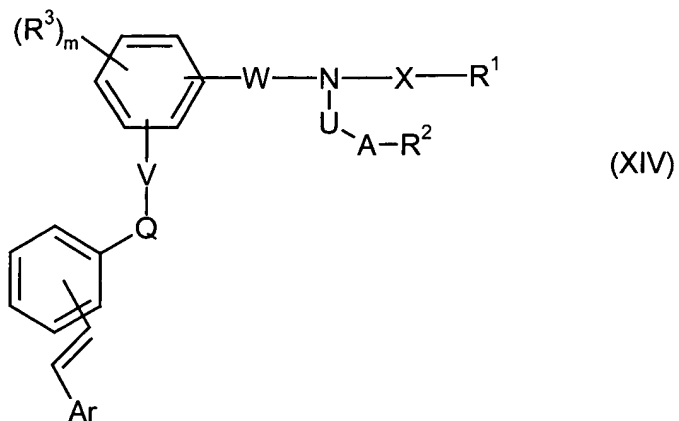


in which

Ar represents an aryl or heteroaryl radical,

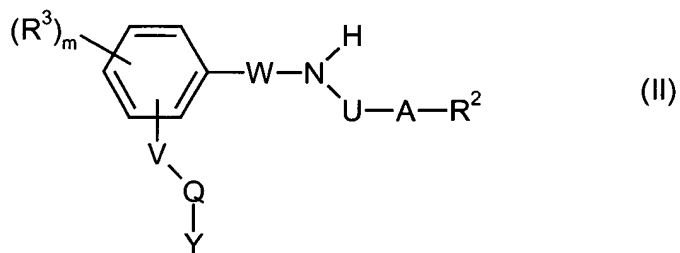
E is a leaving group which is substituted in the presence of a base,

according to process D with ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (VIII) and hydrogenating the resulting ~~compounds~~ compound of the formula (XIV)



with hydrogen in the presence of a catalyst.

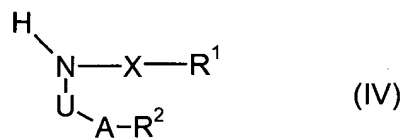
10. (Previously presented) A compound of the formula (II)



in which

$V, Q, Y, R^3, m, W, N, U, A$  and  $R^2$  are as defined in Claim 3.

11. (Previously presented) A compound of the formula (IV)

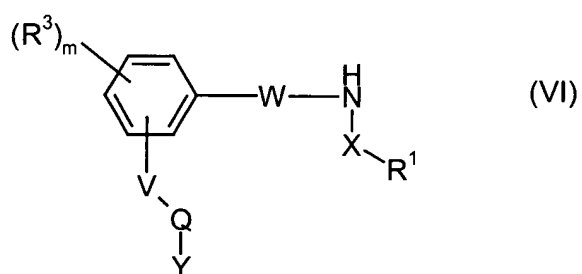




in which

U, A, X, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are as defined in Claim 3.

12. (Previously presented) A compound of the formula (VI)



in which

V, Q, Y, R<sup>3</sup>, m, W, X and R<sup>1</sup> are as defined in Claim 3.

13. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of the general formula (I) according to claim 3, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)
19. (Previously presented) A method of treating a cardiovascular disorder, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound which is capable of stimulating soluble guanylate cyclase independently of the haem group in the enzyme.
20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein said cardiovascular disorder is angina pectoris, ischaemia or cardiac insufficiency.
21. (Previously presented) A method of treating arteriosclerosis, hypertension, thromboembolic disorders, venous disorders, or fibrotic disorders, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound which is capable of stimulating soluble guanylate cyclase independently of the haem group in the enzyme.
22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein said fibrotic disorder is hepatic fibrosis.
23. (Previously presented) A method of treating a cardiovascular disorder, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 3.
24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said cardiovascular disorder is angina pectoris, ischaemia, or cardiac insufficiency.
25. (Previously presented) A method of treating hypertension, thromboembolic disorders, arteriosclerosis, or venous disorders, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 3.

26. (Previously presented) A method of treating a fibrotic disorder, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 3.
27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said fibrotic disorder is hepatic fibrosis.